



Livestock and Products

2000 Nebraska Summary

Cattle and calves inventory in Nebraska continued their decline, falling 1 percent from the previous year. Beef cows fell 1 percent to 1.95 million head. Milk cows showed a 5 percent increase to 80,000 head. Cattle on feed was up 5 percent as well to a record 2.55 million head. Number of cattle operations fell to 27,000 while beef cow operations held steady at 23,000. Milk cow operations fell to 1,200 or 75 percent of the number of operations 4 years ago.

Hog and pig inventory in Nebraska was up 2 percent after 5 years of declining numbers. Breeding inventories continued to decline; however, increased market hogs more than offset the drop in breeding numbers. Number of hog operations fell to 4,000 or 47 percent of the number of operations 4 years ago. Average litter rates have improved in the last 20 years from around 7 pigs per litter in the early 70's to nearly 9 pigs per litter in 2000.

Sheep and lamb inventory was up 12 percent from last year with number of operations remaining steady at 1,700. Wool production was up 1 percent; however, wool prices, at 18 cents per pound, are nearing record low levels.

Nebraska had an average of 11.9 million layers during 2000 which produced a record 3 billion eggs. Nebraska's milk cows produced 1.25 million pounds of milk, up 10 percent from 1999. Nebraska's 50,000 colonies of bees produced 4.35 million pounds of honey.

Nebraska's 32 federally inspected cattle slaughter plants processed 7.6 million cattle during 2000 while 22 federally inspected hog slaughter plants processed 6.3 million hogs. Local lockers processed 700 sheep and lambs; however, nearly all the sheep that Nebraska produces are slaughtered out of state.

Livestock and Products: Index of Livestock Production, 1977=100 Nebraska, Selected Years, 1955-2000

Year	Meat Animals	Milk	Poultry Products	Livestock and Products	Year	Meat Animals	Milk	Poultry Products	Livestock and Products
1955	77	171	234	87	1990	141	100	199	139
1960	69	149	239	79	1995	147	81	316	145
1965	83	135	181	89	1996	142	78	307	140
1970	108	117	116	109	1997	142	77	316	140
1975	96	106	104	97	1998	149	78	344	146
1980	119	98	120	117	1999	153	85	427	152
1985	123	100	117	121	2000	154	93	395	153

Livestock and Products: Record Highs and Lows Nebraska

Item	Estimates Began	Unit	Record High		Record Low	
			Total	Year	Total	Year
			<i>Thousand</i>		<i>Thousand</i>	
All Cattle and Calves	1867	Head	7,410	1974	115	1867
Milk Cows	1867	Head	820	1934	14	1867
Cattle on Feed	1930	Head	2,550	2001	152	1937
Hogs and Pigs	1867	Head	5,983	1924	250	1867
All Sheep	1920	Head	1,265	1943	95	1994, 1997
Wool	1909	Pounds	4,970	1960	644	1997
Chickens	1924	Head	19,938	1944	3,830	1976
Turkeys Raised	1929	Head	2,550	1993	250	1931
Milk	1924	Pounds	3,163,000	1933	1,040,000	1997
Eggs	1924	Eggs	2,999,000	2000	723,000	1974